[187 cont.]

291 part of the breast covering is attached about the belt.

3. A pantaloon of a very wide style, stopping at the knees.

4. Leggings coming up to just above the knees and often decorated with embroidery on the lower portion.

5. A headdress recalling, in its total appearance, the one we have described for the "Pa-y" women.

The hair, knotted in a very tight chignon, carries on its high-
[302] est portion a sort of rigid armature trimmed with spherical silver buttons. On top of the whole is placed a very light piece of material, of fine linen dyed dark blue, with a fringed border.

The "Ho-nhi" women have very abundant jewelry: rings,
301 bracelets, and earrings. They also have necklaces of a special design, made [188] of little round plaques of embossed silver, threaded upon a cord. Some of the women trim the front of their jackets with a row of these same small plaques.

The "Ho-nhi" cabins are rectangular and very small. The
342 walls are of mud. The straw roof comes very low down, in such a
353 way as to create all along the outside walls a wide, sheltered corridor. The hut has only one door, which opens on an interior hallway. It is divided into several compartments by light mud partitions. All its rooms open upon the interior hallway. The hall of honor contains the ancestral altar and usually is located opposite the entrance doorway. The kitchen is most frequently set up in the interior hallway in the section farthest away from the entrance doorway.

The type of life of the "Ho-nhi" is like that of all the tribes
243 that cultivate irrigated rice fields. The agricultural implements and the farming methods are in no way unusual.

The beliefs and customs are rather close to those of the "Méo."
771 Like the latter, the "Ho-nhi" love independence. Living very iso-
181 lated on their high hills, they retain great freedom of bearing and are not obsessed by a fear of evil spirits.

58 The "Ho-nhi" marry among themselves. The marriage proposal is made by intermediaries. The wedding ceremonies present no noticeable peculiarity. As among all the other groups, they are marked by great rejoicing and substantial feasts.